

# Washington State Patrol Media Release

**Chief John R. Batiste**

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Captain Jeff DeVere  
Government and Media Relations  
(360) 753-5299 – office  
(360) 753-5469 – fax  
<http://www.wsp.wa.gov>

**\*\*\*For Immediate Release\*\*\***

**Date: May 24, 2006**  
**Contact: Trooper Mike Kesler**  
**(360) 449-7960 Office**  
**(360) 906-2405 Pager**  
**[mike.kesler@wsp.wa.gov](mailto:mike.kesler@wsp.wa.gov)**

## Female Arrested for Failing to Stop for WSP Sergeant

On May 24, 2006 at approximately 2:30 PM, Sergeant Rob Brusseau was working a Washington State Traffic Safety Click-It-Ticket overtime shift. He was parked on the right shoulder eastbound on SR-14 at the Portco Tunnel (Milepost 2) looking for speeding cars. Sergeant Brusseau observed a Dodge Durango approaching at a high rate of speed. The Dodge came through the Laser Speed Measuring Device at 76 MPH in the 60 MPH zone.

Sergeant Brusseau pulled in behind turning on his emergency equipment to stop the Dodge. The Dodge slowed down, but made no attempt to stop for Sergeant Brusseau. Sergeant Brusseau continued to change the tones on his siren to get the drivers attention. Sergeant Brusseau could see the female driver looking back in her left side mirror. The Dodge took the exit to northbound I-205 still not pulling over for Sergeant Brusseau. A Clark County Sheriff's Police car came in behind Sergeant Brusseau with two additional WSP Patrol cars in the area of Burton Road (Milepost 29).

The Dodge moved to the right shoulder and stopped. Sergeant Brusseau ordered the driver to exit the Dodge with no response. The driver picked up her cellular phone and starting to talk. WSP Communications advised the registered owner Cheryl K. Smith, has a history of assaulting police officers and suffers from by-polar symptoms.

Sergeant Brusseau walked up to the driver's side and ordered the driver out. The driver didn't respond and Sergeant Brusseau broke the driver's window out with his ASP baton. The driver's was then taken into custody without any further incident.

The driver was identified as Cheryl K. Smith, a 55 year old resident of Vancouver. A driver's check of Smith revealed her driving status was suspended in the 3<sup>rd</sup> degree for unpaid tickets.

Sergeant Brusseau booked Smith into the Clark County jail for Resisting Arrest and Driving While License Suspended in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree. Charges for Negligent Driving in

the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, Speeding and Failing to Stop for a Police Officer are going to be referred to the Clark County Prosecutor's Office.

It was learned that when Smith was on her cellular phone she was talking with her attorney, who advised her to give up and cooperate with the police officers.

Smith's actions caused at least two collisions in the backup of traffic.

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